

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides a method to support the coordination of geographically distributed printing and, in particular, identification of possibilities for distributing print jobs to other shops for production. The technique involves the forwarding of production schedules by a number of print shops to a central location, where they are accessible to other print shops and can be used as a resource for identifying possible collaboration partners for distributed production. The technique builds on the common understanding and similar representation in the print industry of the production schedule, a device which charts the plan assignment of print job to particular machines for some future period. The novelty of the present invention lies in the sharing of production schedules through forwarding them to a central location in order to support the coordination of distributed production printing.